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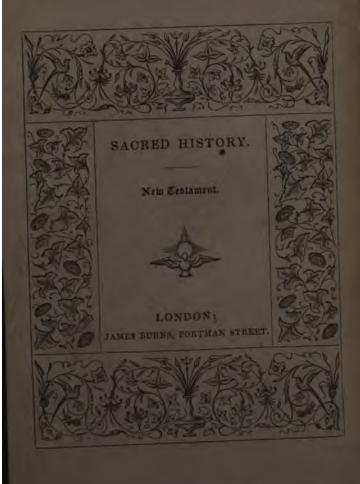
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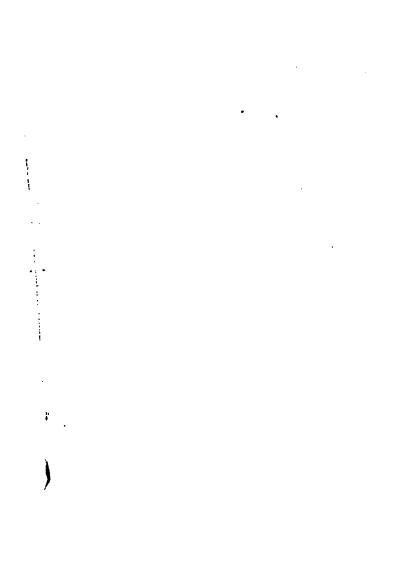
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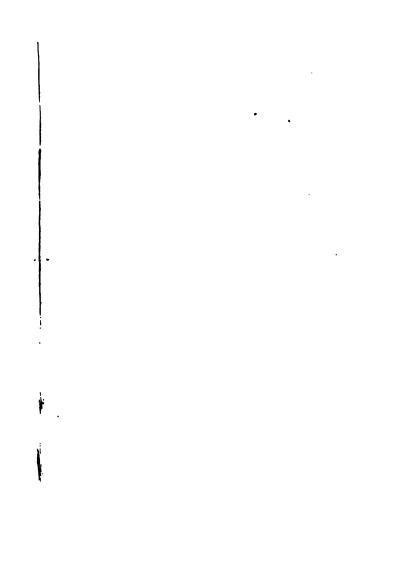
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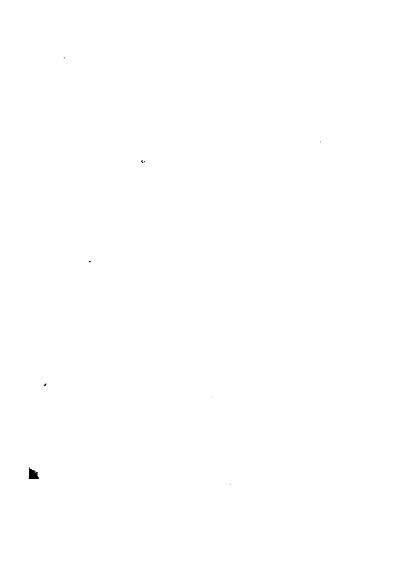




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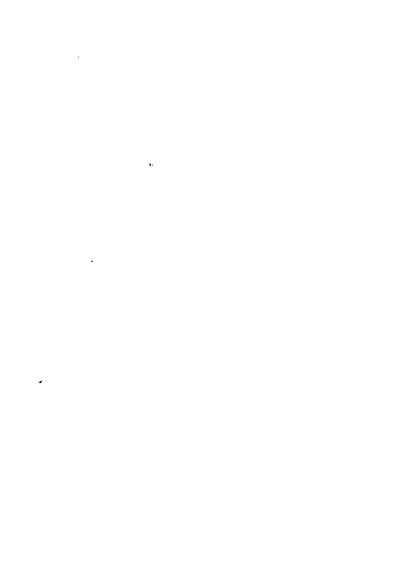


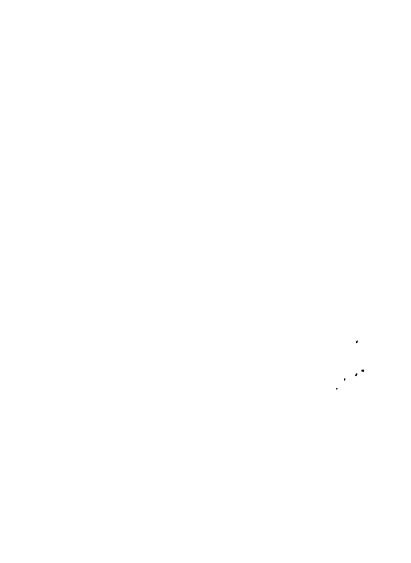


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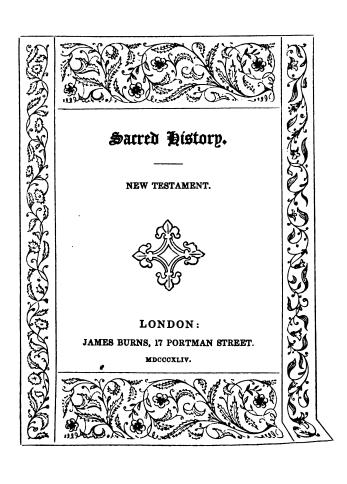














# LONDON: PRINTED BY ROBSON, LEVEY, AND FRANKLYN, Great New Street, Fetter Lane.



In the preparation of this volume the Editor has taken considerable portions of Schmid's New Testament History. He has endeavoured to combine simplicity and reverence; and he trusts it will be acceptable to Christian mothers.

R. B.

July 1844.



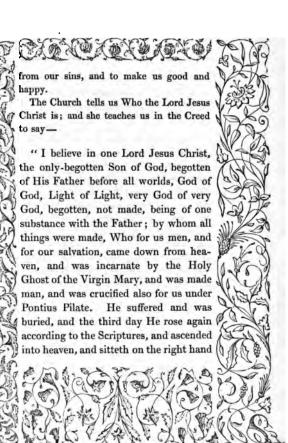
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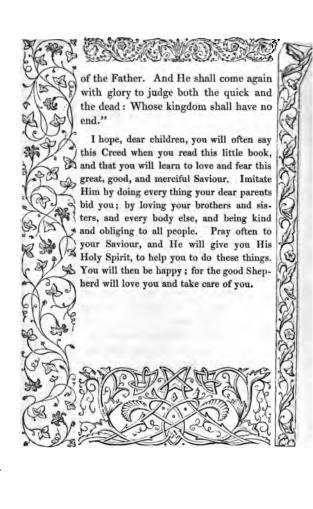
### Little Lambs of Christ's flock.

MY DEAR CHILDREN.

In this little book you will learn some of the great and wonderful things, which our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ said and did when He was in this world. It will tell you that He was once a little Child, that He was very poor, that He was often hungry and tired, and that He was treated unkindly, and put to a cruel death by wicked men. When you read about these things, you must remember that Jesus Christ was not a common man; but that He was the great, Almighty God, as well as man. He was not obliged to bear all this misery; but He came down from heaven to save us

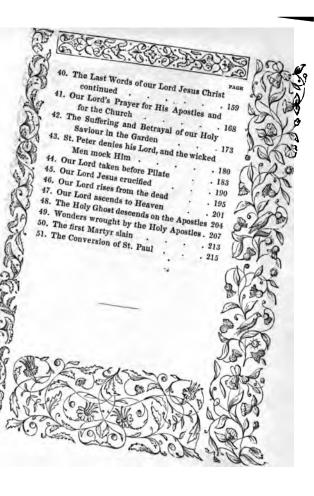


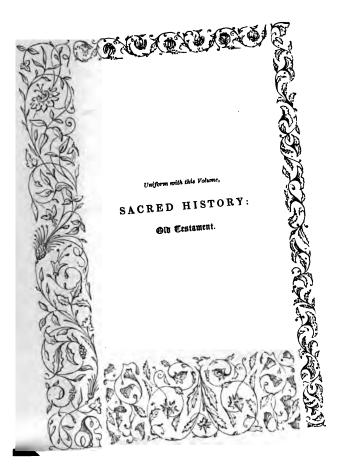






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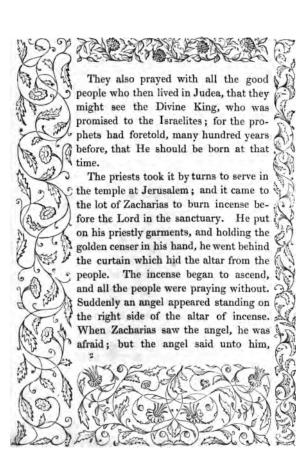


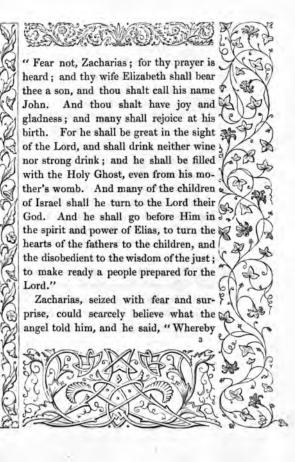
### SACRED HISTORY.

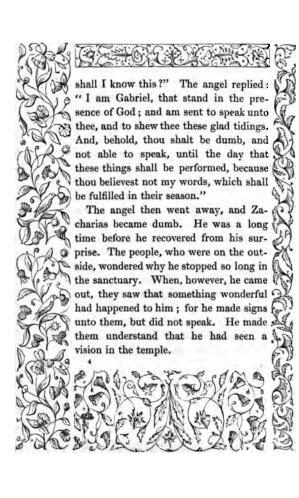
#### The New Testament.

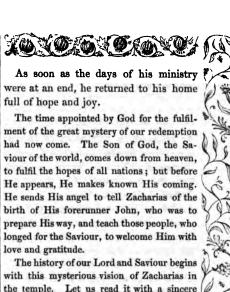
#### 1. ZACHARIAS AND ELIZABETH.

In the reign of King Herod there lived in a small town situated among the mountains of Judea, a pious priest, named Zacharias: his wife's name was Elizabeth. Although they lived among very wicked people, they were good, and tried to please God in every thing they did. They had no children; and they prayed to God to give them a son. But their prayers were not answered until they were very old.









The history of our Lord and Saviour begins with this mysterious vision of Zacharias in the temple. Let us read it with a sincere heart, and a humble desire to profit by its divine lessons. We shall find in it a source of the greatest comfort, and the strongest motives to make us give up ourselves en-



tirely to the service of that Saviour who has done so much for us.

#### 2. THE VIRGIN MARY.

AT Nazareth, a little town of Galilee, there lived, humble and retired, a poor young virgin. Though she had descended from the royal race of King David, she worked for her own living. Her name was Mary. She was espoused to a carpenter named Joseph, who was as poor as herself; but he was a good man, and full of love to the blessed Saviour. Although Mary had none of the riches of this world, she was rich in virtue and goodness: she was innocent, sincere, and very humble.

Mary believed the prophecies which foretold the birth of the Divine Saviour, and she longed for His coming. About six months after Zacharias had

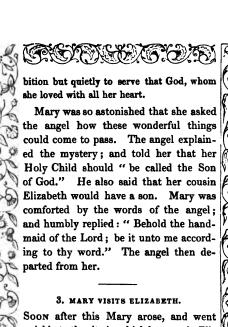




seen the vision, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to Mary. He appeared suddenly to her, and said, " Hail, thou that art highly favoured; the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." When Mary saw the angel, and heard his words, she was afraid, and she could not understand what he meant. But the angel encouraged her with these words: "Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive, and bring forth a son, and shalt call His name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David. And He shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of His kingdom there shall be no end."

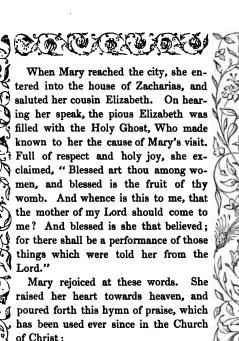
This was wonderful news to a person so humble as this poor virgin, who had no am-





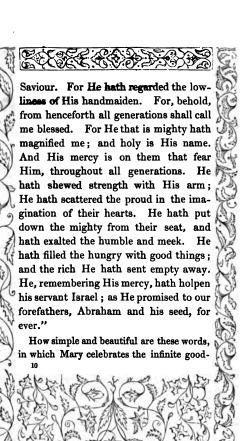
Soon after this Mary arose, and went quickly to the city in which her cousin Elizabeth dwelt, to tell her the joyful tidings; and to unite with her in praising the Lord for His mercy.

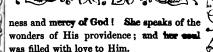




"My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my







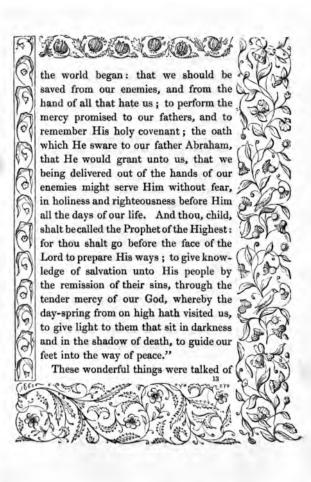
After remaining three months with her cousin, Mary returned home.

# 4. THE BIRTH OF JOHN. THE time foretold by the angel had now

come, when the son of Zacharias was to be born. Zacharias and Elizabeth received this child as a gift from God, and they were filled with gratitude to Him. When the relations and neighbours of Elizabeth heard of God's goodness to her, they came to rejoice with her. On the eighth day the child was to be circumcised, and to have a name. The friends called him Zacharias, after his father; but his mother said, "Not so; but he shall be called

John." They replied, "There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name." They then made signs to Zacharias, to know what name he would give his son. Zacharias could not speak, for he had been dumb ever since he disbelieved the angel's words. He then wrote. "His name is John." And the friends were all very much surprised. Directly after writing this, Zacharias was able to speak, and he praised God. not only recovered his speech, but God enabled him to prophesy. Inspired by the Holy Ghost, this good man uttered this beautiful hymn, which is also sung at church:

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He hath visited and redeemed His people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David; as He spake by the mouth of His holy prophets, which have been since of

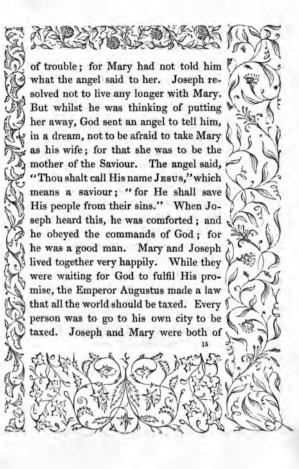


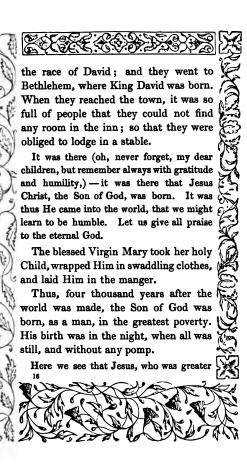
all over the country; and the people who heard of them felt great fear. And they said, "What manner of child shall this

The hand of God was upon this child, and He made him grow in wisdom and virtue. God was preparing him for the great work He had appointed him to do. John dwelt in the solitary deserts, and lived upon locusts and wild honey. At length the time came for him to declare the coming of the Messiah. He told the people that Jesus was this Messiah; and that He was the Lamb of God, who was to take away the sins of the world.

## 5. THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST.

For some time Mary lived happily at Nazareth. But when Joseph saw what was likely to happen to her, he was full





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than all kings, had only a poor stable for His palace, and a manger for His cradle. Jesus Christ, who made every thing, and was worshipped by the angels in heaven, was surrounded in His birthplace by vile animals. Such was the holy will of His Father. It was not what the Jews expected, but was what God had foretold by His prophets.

The pomp and grandeur of this world are nothing in the sight of God. In the kingdom which Jesus Christ came to establish on earth, nothing is precious but virtue and goodness. Seek, then, these blessings from your Saviour, that you may live with Him in heaven.

6. THE SHEPHERDS VISIT BETHLEHEM.

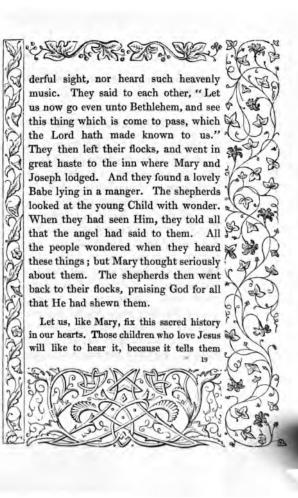
Ir was at midnight, when the people of Judea had retired to rest, that some poor shepherds were watching their flocks in the fields. Whilst they were watching in the dark night, the angel of God ap-



peared suddenly to them. At the same moment a bright light from heaven shone around them; and they were afraid. The angel then said to them, "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

When the angel had done speaking, a great number of angels appeared; and they praised God in these words, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men." The angels then went away into heaven.

The shepherds were full of joy; for they had never before seen such a wonis





about their Saviour, who loves little children so tenderly.

#### 7. JESUS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE.

At the end of forty days Mary went to Jerusalem, to present Jesus in the temple. She gave, according to custom, two young pigeons as an offering to God; for she was too poor to give a lamb. little offering was, however, pleasing to God, because Mary gave it with a sincere and grateful heart. The priests and people saw the Infant Jesus in the temple; but their evil hearts knew not that He was the Saviour of sinners. Some of the people were, however, very good; and prayed that they might see the Saviour, who was to come at that time. Among these good people there was one named Simeon. He was a just man, and hoped every day to see the Saviour of mankind

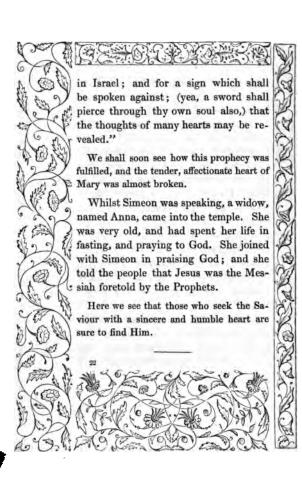


come into the world; for the Holy Ghost made known to him, that before he died he should see the Lord's Christ.

On the same day that Jesus was taken to the temple, the Spirit of God directed Simeon to go there. When Simeon saw the Infant Jesus, he knew directly that He was the Saviour he had expected so long. He then took the Holy Child in his arms, and praised God in these words: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel."

Joseph and Mary were astonished when they heard these words. Simeon then turned to them, and blessed them. He said to Mary, "Behold, this Child is set for the falling and rising again of many



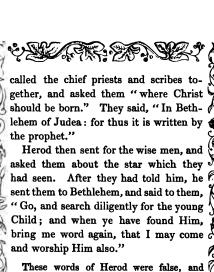


## 8. THE WORSHIP OF THE WISE MEN.

When the Saviour of the world was born, only a few pious people knew it. They rejoiced at His coming. The greater number of the people of Israel knew nothing about it. God, however, resolved that all the people should know that His Son was born. One day there came to Jerusalem some great people from the East. Some say they were kings. They asked the people, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen His star in the East, and

It was soon known all over Jerusalem that these great men had come to see a new-born king. When King Herod heard it, he was in great trouble, for he was afraid of losing his crown. He then

are come to worship Him."



These words of Herod were false, and were said only to hide his wicked cruelty. He did not mean to worship Jesus; but he wished to find out where He was, that he might kill Him.

The wise men now set off for Bethlehem, which was near Jerusalem. As they went, they saw the star again, which TO TO TO TO TO TO

had appeared to them in the East, and they were very glad. It was shining brightly in the heavens; and it went before them, till it came and stood over the place where Jesus was.

They then entered the house, and found the young Child with His mother. When they saw Jesus, they fell down and worshipped Him. The wise men then opened their treasures, and presented gold, frankincense, and myrrh, unto Jesus. They offered these things, because they knew that He was their King and Saviour.

The next morning they meant to go back to King Herod. But God knew Herod's wicked thoughts, and He warned them in a dream not to do so. The wise men obeyed God, and returned home by another way.

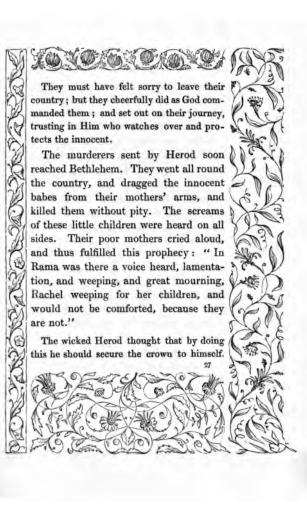


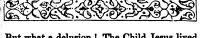
#### 9. THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT.

HEROD waited impatiently for the wise men to return. When he found they did not come, he was very angry. then cruelly ordered all the infants of two years old and upwards, living in Bethlehem, to be murdered. By this cruel order he made sure of destroying the Child which made him so fearful. But God knew all the plans of this wicked man, and how to defeat them. He sent an angel to speak to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, and take the young Child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him."

Joseph arose in haste, and taking Jesus, with His mother, he fled by night into Egypt.

26





But what a delusion! The Child Jesus lived in Egypt secure from his wicked malice; and a few years after this cruel deed, the wicked Herod lost his crown and his life.

When Herod was dead, the angel of the Lord appeared again to Joseph, and told him to go back to his country. As soon as Joseph came to the borders of the land of Israel, he heard that Herod's son, named Archelaus, was the king. This frightened him, and made him turn aside into Galilee.

Thus, after a long absence, Joseph and Mary returned to the village of Nazareth, which was their native place. Here they lived in peace and happiness, supported by their own industry, and carefully bringing up the Holy Child Jesus.

Let us stop for a moment, and consider this lovely picture of the holy family. What can be more touching than to see Jesus, the

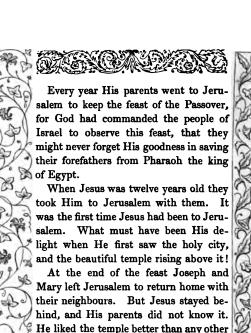


Creator of heaven and earth, Mary, His blessed mother, and Joseph, who was found worthy to be the foster-father of the Infant Jesus;—what, I say, can be more touching than to see them living in poverty and obscurity,—far from that world which was not worthy to know them or to possess them! to see them loving each other, and practising all goodness, and thus glorifying their Father in heaven. O that all Christian families lived like them, and tried to imitate this holy family! The earth would then furnish us with all the joys of paradise.

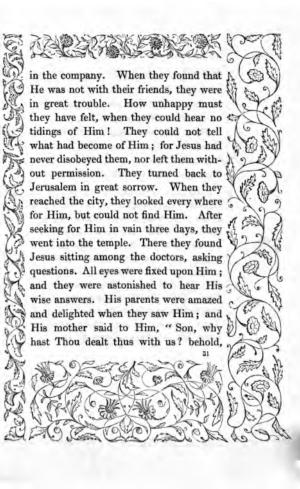
## 10. JESUS OBEYS HIS PARENTS.

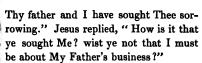
JESUS lived with His parents at Nazareth. He grew, and increased in strength. The grace of God was seen in Him, and in all that He did. Though He was but a little child, He was filled with divine wisdom.

29



place. Joseph and Mary travelled on a whole day, and thought that Jesus was





They did not understand what He meant by these words, but His mother treasured them up in her heart. Jesus then went back with them to Nazareth.

Jesus lived in the humble dwelling of His parents; and He did all that they bade Him to do. Oh, what a lesson this is for you, children! Follow His holy example. Let the history of His youth be your guide: it is given in these few words; "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." Try to become like Him. Take His life as your pattern; and pray to Him to help you to follow His steps. Never be so wicked as to disobey your parents; but love them as Jesus did His.





# 11. JOHN THE BAPTIST PREACHING IN THE WILDERNESS.

JESUS was now a man; and the time was come for Him to make Himself known as the Saviour of men. He was now to begin the work which He came down from heaven to do. John was to prepare the hearts of the people of Israel for the coming of the Saviour.

John lived in the desert to prepare himself for his wonderful work, until God commanded him to begin preaching. He then went towards the river Jordan. His coat was made of camel's hair, and he had a leathern girdle round his loins. He lived upon locusts and wild honey, which he found in the desert. The clear stream, which reflected the face of heaven, quenched his thirst. John began to preach to the people, saying, "Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at

hand." When the people heard him, many of them confessed their sins. They were sorry for their wicked lives, and promised to be better. John then baptised them in the river Jordan.

This preaching of John was talked about all over the country; so that the people came flocking from all parts of Judea to hear him; a great many confessed their wickedness, and were baptised.

Among these crowds of people the Baptist saw some who did not repent. John knew that they were hypocrites, and he said to them, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones



to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees; therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire."

A great number of persons were moved by his preaching, and began to turn from their evil ways. They said unto him, "What shall we do then?" John replied, "He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise."

The publicans, or tax-gatherers, then came to him, and asked the same question. He replied, "Exact no more than that which is appointed you." To the soldiers he said, "Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages."

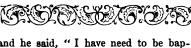
The people were so aroused by the



preaching of St. John Baptist, that they thought he was the Messiah; but he confessed before all, "I am not the Christ. I indeed baptise you with water unto repentance; but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptise you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: whose fan is in His hand, and He will throughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

## THE BAPTISM OF JESUS; AND HIS TEMPTATION IN THE WILDERNESS.

WHILST the people were going in crowds to John, Jesus came from Galilee to the river Jordan, to be baptised by him. John knew who He was, and he felt that he was not worthy to baptise his Saviour,



and he said, "I have need to be baptised of Thee, and comest Thou to me?"
But Jesus replied, "Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness." John then baptised Jesus in the river Jordan.

When Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens opened, and the voice of God the Eternal Father was heard saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And that all the people might know that it was Jesus who was meant, the Holy Spirit came down upon Him in the form of a dove.

Thus did God declare that Jesus Christ was His Son; and that He had sent Him on His mission.

After this, the Holy Ghost led our Saviour into the lonely wilderness. In this solitary place He spent forty days, fasting and praying. All this time He





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Thus, after a long absence, Joseph and Mary returned to the village of Nazareth, which was their native place. Here they lived in peace and happiness, supported by their own industry, and carefully bringing up the Holy Child Jesus.

Let us stop for a moment, and consider this lovely picture of the holy family. What can be more touching than to see Jesus, the



Creator of heaven and earth, Mary, His blessed mother, and Joseph, who was found worthy to be the foster-father of the Infant Jesus;—what, I say, can be more touching than to see them living in poverty and obscurity,—far from that world which was not worthy to know them or to possess them! to see them loving each other, and practising all goodness, and thus glorifying their Father in heaven. O that all Christian families lived like them, and tried to imitate this holy family! The earth would then furnish us with all the joys of paradise.

## 10. JESUS OBEYS HIS PARENTS.

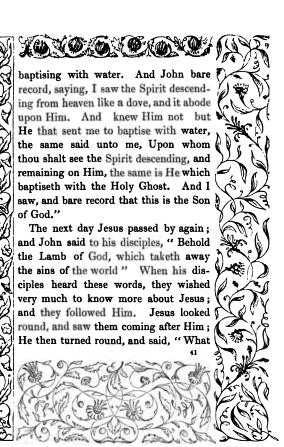
JESUS lived with His parents at Nazareth. He grew, and increased in strength. The grace of God was seen in Him, and in all that He did. Though He was but a little child, He was filled with divine wisdom.

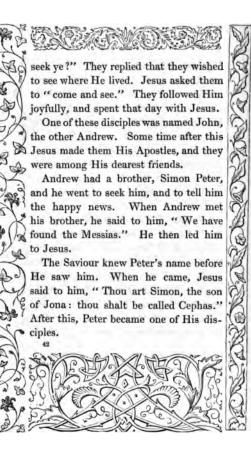


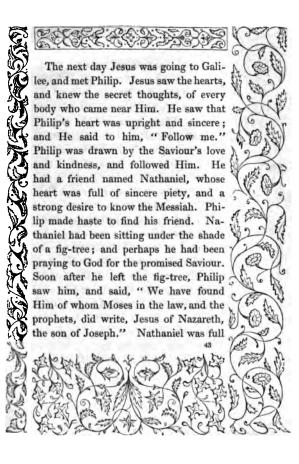
grace we may do it; for God never suffers us to be tempted above our strength. Jesus is our Saviour; we must also take Him as our model. We must, like Him, resist all the suggestions of the enemy of our souls. Let us fight with the armour of faith; we shall then be the true disciples of Christ.

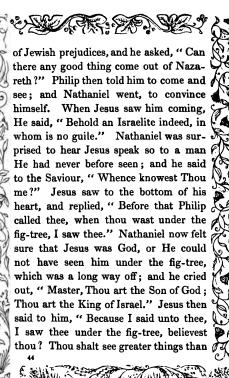
#### 13. THE FIRST DISCIPLES CHOSEN.

JESUS now left the wilderness, and went towards John. As soon as John saw Him again, he was filled with holy joy, and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. This is He of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for He was before me. And I knew Him not: but that He should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come









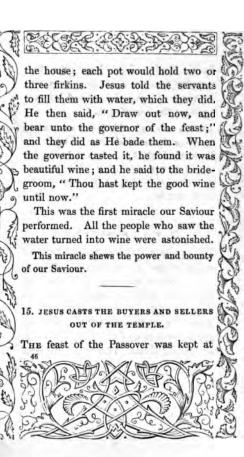
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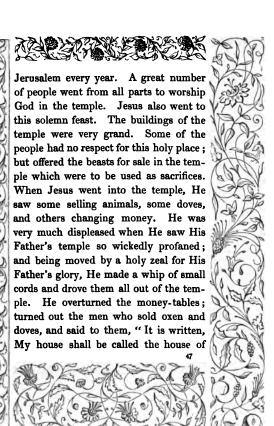
these. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

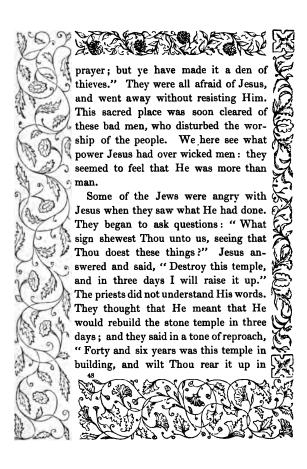
"Son of man!" this is the name which Jesus the Son of God chose to take. He did so, no doubt, to teach us to be humble, and to shew us how great His love for us was, which made Him become man, that He might save us.

## 14. THE MIRACLE AT CANA.

THERE was a marriage at Cana, a town of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and His disciples were also asked, and they went. When the guests wanted some wine, Mary said to Jesus, "They have no wine." She told the servants to do every thing that Jesus should bid them. There were six large stone water-pots standing in the hall of







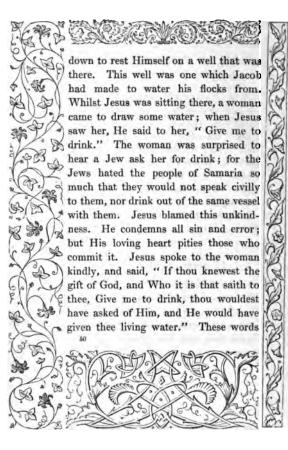


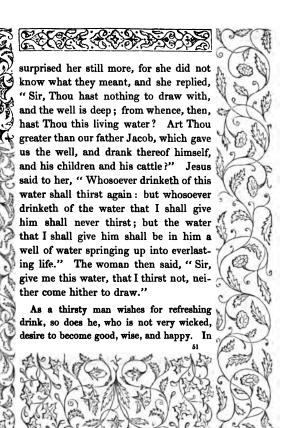
three days?" The Jews then went away very angry.

When Jesus said He would raise the temple in three days, He meant, that if the Jews killed Him, He would rise again from the grave in three days. How truly did He fulfil these words! We may learn from what Jesus did to the buyers and sellers in the temple, that it is very wicked to trifle in God's house. If we spend our time in church thinking about pleasure or business, Jesus will be angry with us, as He was with these Jews.

## 16. JESUS AT JACOB'S WELL.

JESUS left Jerusalem, and returned to Nazareth. He was obliged to go through the country of Samaria. When He came near a town called Sychar He was tired; Jesus then sent His disciples into the town to buy some food, whilst He sat





these beautiful words Jesus promises to satisfy this thirst of our souls by the teaching of the Holy Ghost. If we follow Him, He will open in our hearts a fountain of truth, holiness, and happiness. What can we wish for more than this!

Jesus now shewed this woman that He knew the secrets of her heart; she was very much afraid when she found that a stranger knew all her sins. Filled with shame, she said, "Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ve say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship." Jesus then said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour cometh when ve shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship



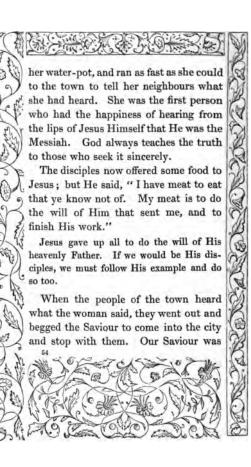
Him. God is a Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

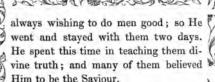
What an important lesson is this for us! The soul of man is the true temple of God. We must worship God from the very bottom of our hearts, for He is present every where. We must be sincere in what we say in our prayers; for God hears all we say: our words must come from the heart, and we must try to live as we pray. All other worship is hypocrisy.

The woman told Jesus that she knew the Messiah was to come, and that He would teach all things.

Jesus replied, "I that speak unto thee am He." Just at this moment the disciples came with the food they had bought, and they wondered to see Jesus talking with this woman.

The poor woman was full of joy at what Jesus had told her. She put down





Happy are all those who believe, love, and obey Jesus, without having seen Him.

# 17. JESUS PREACHES FOR THE FIRST TIME AT NAZARETH.

The Saviour went to Nazareth, where we he had been brought up. On the Sabbath-day He went into the synagogue and stood up to read. They gave Him the book of Isaiah the prophet. He opened it and read these beautiful words: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath appointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent

me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." When He had read this, He shut the book, and sat down. All the people fixed their eyes on Him. And He said, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears."

Think what these words of the prophet meen. They tell us how much we owe to Jesus Christ, who can and will do all that

Think what these words of the prophet mean. They tell us how much we owe to Jesus Christ, who can and will do all that He has there promised. It is Jesus whom the prophet means; for none but Jesus can pardon our sins and deliver us from them.

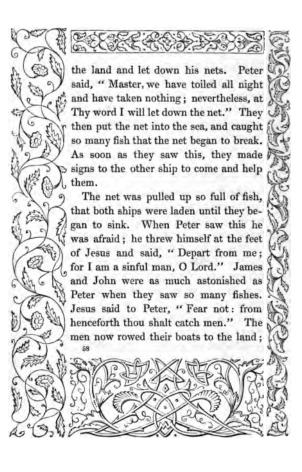
The people listened to all Jesus said. They wondered to hear such wisdom and goodness; and they said to each other, "Is not this Joseph's son?" Jesus still continued to teach them. At last they became so angry that they got up and pushed Him out of the city. They then

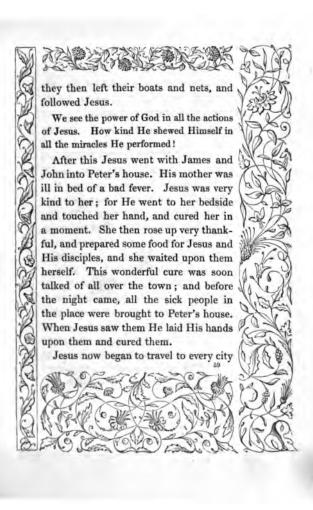


led Him to the edge of a high rock, on which the city stood, and tried to throw Him off; but Jesus passed through them all and went away. Thus the wicked people of Nazareth rejected their Saviour.

## 18. THE MIRACULOUS DRAUGHT OF FISHES.

One day Jesus stood by the lake of Gennesareth; and a great number of people came to see and hear Him. There were two ships close by the shore; one belonged to Peter and his brother Andrew, and the other to James and John; they were busy mending their nets. When Jesus saw the people crowd about Him so much, He got into Simon's boat, and asked him to push it away from the land. Simon obeyed joyfully; and Jesus then preached to the people. When He had finished, He told Peter to go further from





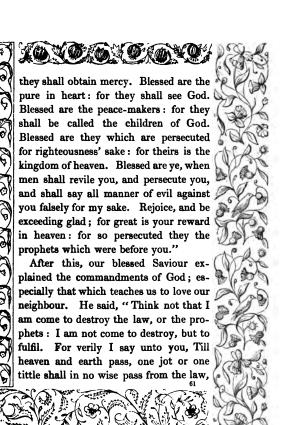


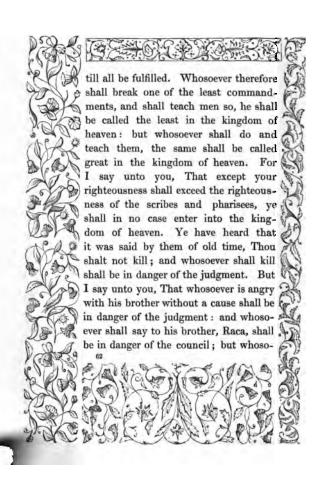
and village to preach and heal the sick. He told the people to "repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

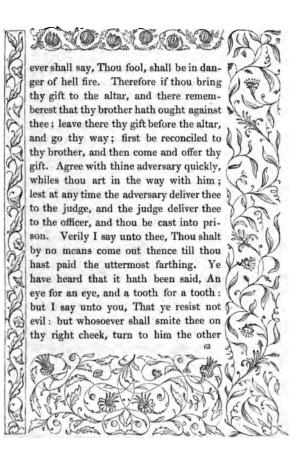
#### 19. THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT.

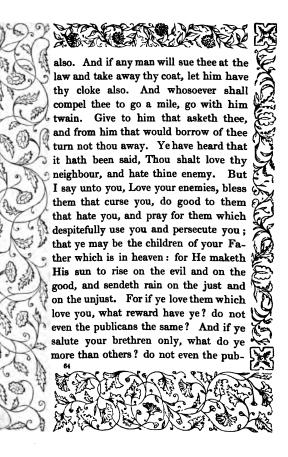
When the people saw the miracles which the Saviour wrought, they followed Him in crowds. Jesus went up into a mountain and began to teach them. The disciples stood close to Him; but the people were round the mountain. All eyes were fixed on Jesus, and there was a deep He then taught them in these silence. words: "Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for













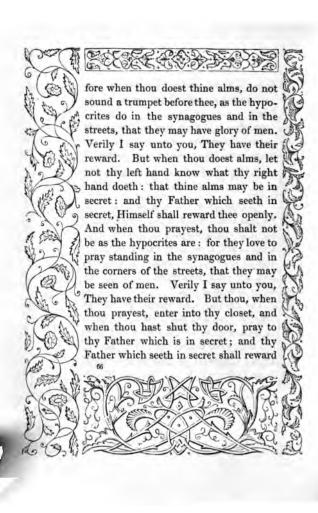
licans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

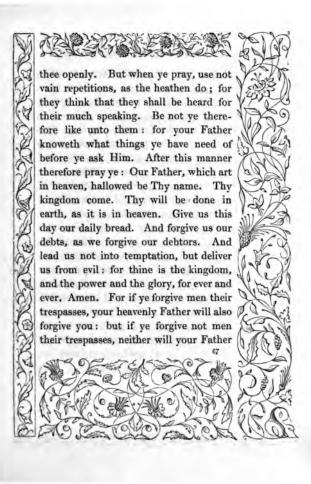
He then told them that they must not only avoid impure actions, but that evil looks and corrupt desires were sinful.

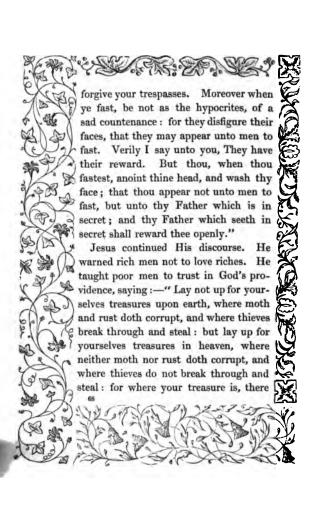
We must avoid the great sin of taking false oaths. All our words are to be the truth.

"Swear not at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne: nor by the earth, for it is His footstool: neither by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. But let your communication be yea, yea, nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil."

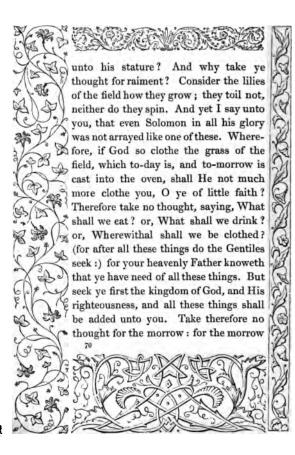
The Saviour also teaches us how to pray, to fast, and give alms to the poor, in these words:—"Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them; otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. There-

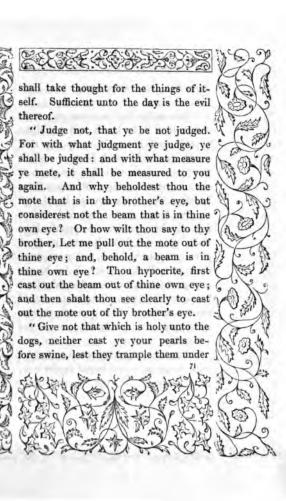






will your heart be also. The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of But if thine eye be evil, thy whole light. body shall be full of darkness. fore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other: or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ve shall eat, or what ve shall drink; nor vet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ve not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit



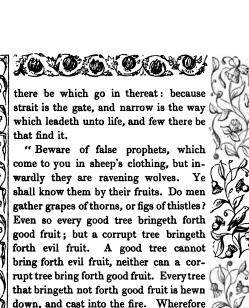


their feet, and turn again and rend

you. "Ask, and it shall be given you: seek. and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth: and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him? Therefore all things whatsoever ve would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the

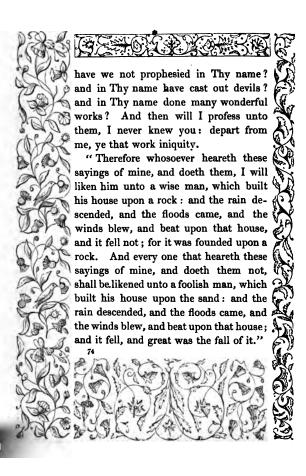
"Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many

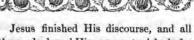
prophets.



by their fruits ye shall know them.

"Not every one that saith unto me,
Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom
of heaven; but he that doeth the will of
my Father which is in heaven. Many
will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord,





Jesus finished His discourse, and all those who heard Himwere astonished; for they had never before heard such words.

These lessons of our Saviour are intended for us, as well as for those who heard them. Happy shall we be if we make them the rule of our conduct. We must not only know the lessons which Christ teaches, but we must obey them, if we wish to go to heaven.

## JESUS HEALS THE SICK, AND RAISES THE DAUGHTER OF JAIRUS TO LIFE.

ONE day, as our Saviour was sitting in a house teaching the people, a poor man was brought in his bed to be cured of the palsy. There was a great crowd of people round the house, so that those who brought the sick man could not get

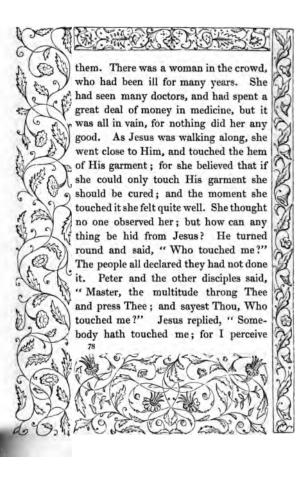
in to Jesus. But they were so anxious to have him cured, and they had such faith in the Saviour, that they carried the sick man to the top of the house, and let him down through the roof into the room where Jesus was sitting. When Jesus saw the faith they had in Him, He was pleased. He looked on the poor sick man with pity, and spoke kindly to him, saving, "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." The proud and envious Scribes and Pharisees were offended with Jesus, because He forgave the poor man's sins. Jesus knew their wicked thoughts, and said to them. "Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? for whether is easier to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins. (then saith He to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go to thine

house." Directly our Lord had said these words, the poor man was cured; and he got up, took his bed, and carried it home. When the people saw this, they were astonished; and they glorified God, and said, "We have seen strange

After this, Jesus went out of the house; and as He was walking along the street, He saw Matthew sitting at the receipt of custom; and He said to him, "Follow me;" and Matthew rose up and followed Jesus, and invited Him to his house.

things to-day."

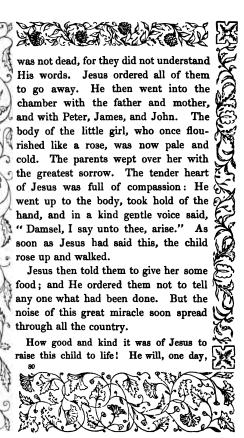
Whilst Jesus was talking with His disciples, one of the rulers, named Jairus, came to Him, to ask Him to cure his little girl, who was very ill. Jairus fell down at the feet of Jesus, and prayed Him to go and lay His hands upon her, and heal her. Jesus listened to his prayer, and He arose and went with him; a very great crowd of people followed





that virtue is gone out of me." When the poor woman saw that Jesus knew all, she was seized with fear; and casting herself at the feet of Jesus, she confessed what she had done. The Lord looked kindly upon her, and said, "Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace."

Whilst Jesus was speaking, one of the servants of Jairus came to him and said, "Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master." When Jesus heard this, He said, "Fear not; believe only, and she shall be made whole." On reaching the house. He found it full of mourners, weeping for the loss of this young girl, who was about twelve years old. Jesus said to them, "Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth." The people then mocked Jesus, because He said the child

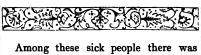


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raise us all from our graves, as He did this little girl from her death-bed. Oh! let us love and praise Him for His goodness! Let us pray that we may awake in His likeness!

## 21. HEALING THE PARALYTIC.

Ar the feast of the Passover Jesus went to Jerusalem. On the outside of the city there was a pool of water, which was surrounded by a building called Bethesda, which means, the house of the merciful. This building was full of blind, lame, and other sick people, who waited for the moving of the water; for sometimes an angel came down from heaven, and troubled the waters. The first person who went into the pool after this, was cured of whatever disease he had; so that the sick waited in the building to see when the water moved, that they might be ready to jump in first.



Among these sick people there was a poor man who had lost the use of his limbs thirty-eight years. Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had been sick a long time; and He kindly asked the man, "Wilt thou be made whole?" The poor man replied, "Sir, I have no one, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool; but, while I am coming, another steppeth down before me." Jesus then said to him, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." Although this poor man had been a cripple so many years, he was now able to walk, and he rose up, took his bed, and walked home.

As soon as Jesus had cured him, He went away, before the man could ask His name. It was on the Sabbath-day. When the Jews saw him carrying his bed, they said to him, "It is the Sabbath-



day; it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed." The poor man told them that He who had cured him said, "Take up thy bed and walk." They then asked him who the man was that had told him to do so; but he could not tell them, as he did not know Jesus.

A short time after, Jesus saw the man in the temple. He said to him, "Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon thee." When the man knew that Jesus had cured him, he went and told the Jews. These wicked men hated Jesus; and when they heard that He had cured a man on the Sabbath-day, they tried to kill Him.

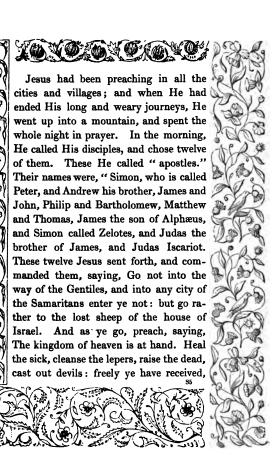
The Lord's day is sanctified by doing works of mercy, and not in neglecting them. And the true way of keeping the Sabbath is to worship God, and to do good to men.

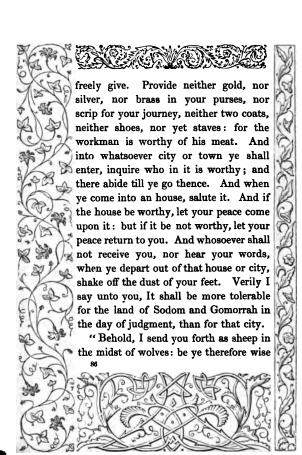


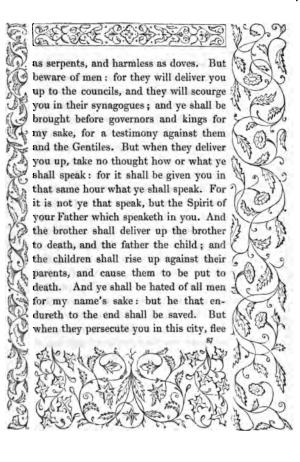
## 22. OUR SAVIOUR CHOOSES HIS TWELVE APOSTLES.

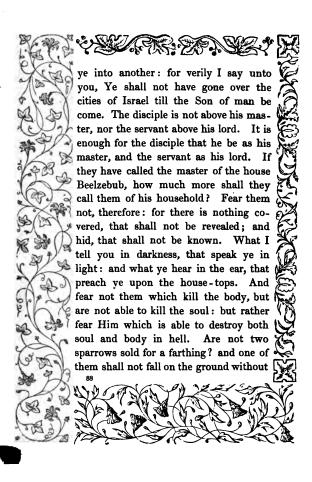
When Jesus returned to Galilee, a very great multitude followed Him, because they had heard of His wonderful miracles. The people came from all parts: some were deaf and dumb; some blind. and lame, and paralytic; and others had evil spirits. They all tried to touch Jesus, that they might be cured. Jesus pitied them, and healed them all. He felt great compassion for these poor people, who were ignorant and wicked. They were scattered like sheep without a shepherd. The sight of their misery moved the tender heart of the Saviour: and He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest."





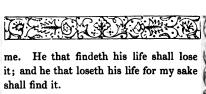








your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not, therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows. Whosoever, therefore, shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-inlaw. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of

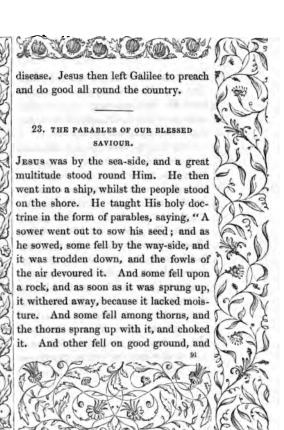


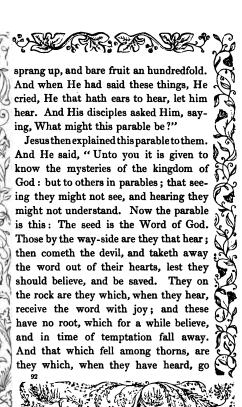
"He that receiveth you receiveth me;

and he that receiveth me receiveth Him that sent me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

After Jesus had finished these words, He sent out His apostles, by two and two, into all the towns and villages, to tell men to repent of their sins. He also gave them power to heal all kinds of







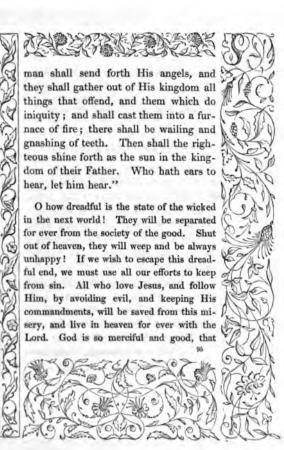
forth, and are choked with cares, and riches, and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. But that on the good ground, are they which, in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience."

In another parable He taught them about the kingdom of heaven on earth, that is, the Church, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field. But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came, and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto



him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest; and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn."

Jesus then explained this parable, saying, "He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; the field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; the enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of





He is always ready to give us His grace to help us to do what is right. Let us then pray always for this grace, and give up all our wicked thoughts, words, and works.

#### 24. THE PARABLES CONTINUED.

"THE kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard-seed, which a man took and sowed in his field: which indeed is the least of all seeds; but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof."

This parable is an image of the holy Church of Jesus Christ, which from small beginnings has spread itself over the whole world, and has received all the kingdoms of the earth into its bosom, by holy baptism.

"The kingdom of heaven," said Jesus again, "is like unto leaven, which a wo-



man took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened."

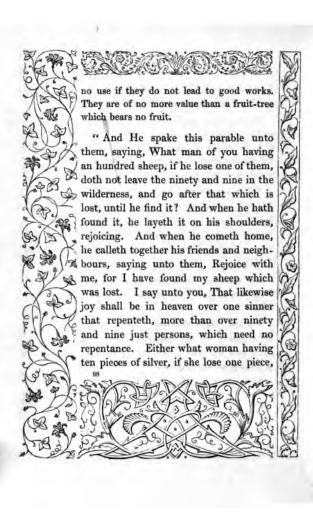
We have been baptised into the kingdom of Jesus Christ; and our whole souls ought to be full of the Divine Spirit of our Saviour. All our thoughts, all our words and actions, ought to be holy and heavenly.

"The kingdom of heaven," continued Jesus, "is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field."

We must not think any thing too precious to sacrifice for our salvation and sanctification.

"Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt; for the tree is known by his fruit."

Pious words and good resolutions are of



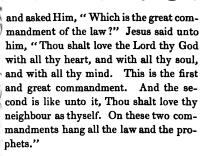


doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I had lost. Likewise, I say unto you, There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

It is thus that the Lord Jesus seeks lost sinners, and brings them back to Himself; and it is thus that the angels in heaven rejoice when a man turns from his wicked ways into the paths of goodness. Oh, how much we ought to love our Saviour, and try to do what He bids us!

# 25. REMARKABLE SENTENCES SPOKEN BY OUR LORD.

A DOCTOR of the law came to our Lord,



These are some of the most important words that were ever spoken to man. We must obey them, if we wish to go to heaven.

One day, when a great many people were standing by the Lord, He spoke these words, which are of the greatest concern to all of us:—" I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father; for 100



so it seemed good in Thy sight. All things are delivered unto me of my Father; and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him." "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

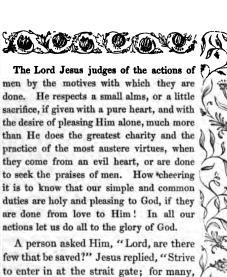
A certain man thought that our Lord was going to found an earthly kingdom, and that he should become a great man; and he came to Jesus, and said unto Him, "Lord, I will follow Thee whithersoever Thou goest." The Lord replied, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay His head."



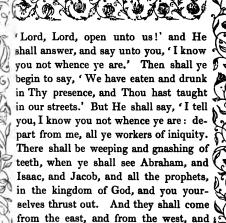
Another said to Him, "Lord, I will follow Thee; but let me first go bid them farewell which are at home at my house." Jesus saw that he was not firm, but that his friends kept him back; and He said to him, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

As the Lord Jesus was sitting in the temple, he saw many rich people putting their money into the treasury. He saw also a very poor widow woman put in two mites, which make a farthing. And He called His disciples, and said, "Verily I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in than all they which have cast into the treasury; for all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

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A person asked Him, "Lord, are there few that be saved?" Jesus replied, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate; for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the Master of the house is risen up, and hath shutto the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying,



shall sit down in the kingdom of God."

St. Peter came one day to Jesus, and said to Him, "Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?" Peter thought he had said a great deal when he asked if he should forgive his brother "seven times."

from the north, and from the south, and



But the Lord answered, "I say not unto thee until seven times, but until seventy times seven."

Our Saviour here teaches us that we must freely, and with a sincere heart, forgive men all that they have done against us, and that we must never "bear malice or hatred in our hearts." This is God's command; and nothing is more displeasing to Him than a malicious and revengeful spirit.

## 26. THE DEATH OF JOHN BAPTIST.

HEROD, the son of that wicked king who had slain the infants at Bethlehem, was governor of Galilee. He heard what a wonderful man John the Baptist was, and he sent for him. When John came, he told Herod of his sins, especially of the wickedness of marrying his brother's wife. Herod knew that St. John was a

very holy man; and he was afraid of him, and did many things that John told him; but he would not listen to what John said against his marrying.

From this time Herodias, the wife of Herod's brother Philip, hated John, and determined to have her revenge on him. She made Herod put this holy man into prison.

Soon after Herod had done this, he kept his birthday, and made a grand feast, to which he asked all his nobles. The daughter of Herodias came to the feast, and danced before all the company. Herod and his friends were so much pleased with her dancing, that he foolishly promised to give her any thing she asked for, even if it was half his kingdom. The girl did not know what to ask for; so she went to her mother, and said,



"What shall I ask?" The wicked woman replied, "The head of John the Baptist." The young girl then made haste back to Herod, and said, "I will that thou give me, by and by, in a charger, the head of John the Baptist." When Herod heard this, he was very sorry; but he dare not break his oath. So he sent his guards to the prison to take off the head of the holy prophet, which they did; and they brought the bleeding head in a charger to the girl; and she took it to her mother.

It was very wrong of Herod to make such a rash vow; but he was not obliged to keep it, for in doing so he was guilty of the most dreadful crime. He took away the life of this good man to please a wicked woman, who hated him because he had reproved her evil ways. In dying this violent death, the

holy forerunner of the Lord Jesus Christ has obtained the glorious crown of martyrdom. He teaches us, by his example, that we should rather die, than sacrifice the sacred interests of virtue and religion.

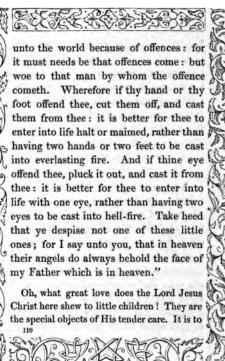
# 27. THE LORD JESUS BLESSES LITTLE CHILDREN.

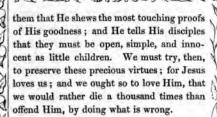
THE Lord Jesus was always followed by a great crowd of people, who came to hear Him, and to be cured by Him. One day some people brought little children, that He might put His hands upon them; but His disciples would have sent them away. When Jesus heard them, He was not pleased with the disciples, for He loved little children; and He said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Verily I say unto you, whosoever shall not re-



ceive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein." And He took the little children in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them.

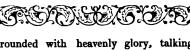
One day the disciples were quarrelling about which of them should be the chief. The Lord knew their thoughts; and, in order to teach them better, He took a little child, and set it in the midst of them. and said, "Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever, therefore, shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name, receiv-But whose shall offend one of eth me. these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.





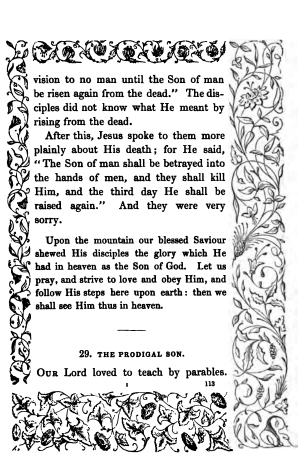
### 28. THE TRANSFIGURATION.

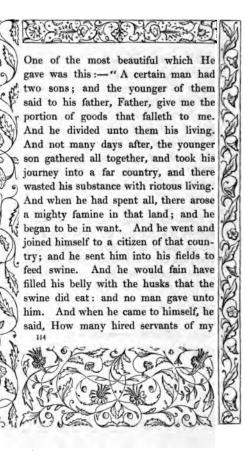
Our blessed Saviour took the three disciples whom He loved most — Peter, James, and John—up a high mountain. When they were at the top, the Lord Jesus knelt down to pray; and, as He prayed, His face shone as bright as the sun, and His raiment became as white as snow, and shone like a bright light. And the disciples saw two men, sur-

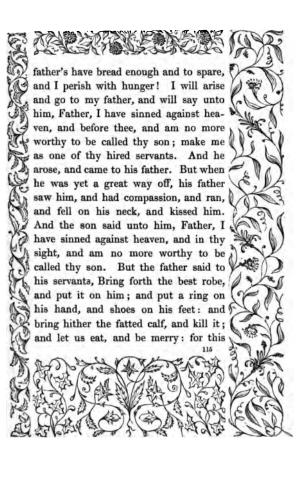


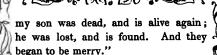
rounded with heavenly glory, talking These men were with the Lord Jesus. Moses and Elias. The disciples were filled with holy fear at this wonderful sight. St. Peter said, with great delight, "Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles -one for Thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias." While he was speaking, a bright cloud came over them; and a Voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased: hear ve Him." When the disciples heard this Voice, they were afraid, and fell on their faces to the ground. But Jesus went to them, and touched them, saying, "Arise, and be not afraid." And when they looked up, they saw the Lord Jesus by Himself, looking as He always did.

As they came down from the mountain, our Lord said to them, "Tell the









What fatherly kindness! It is thus God acts towards truly penitent sinners.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and entreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment; and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: but as soon as

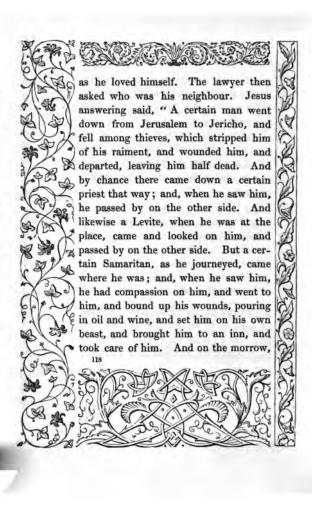


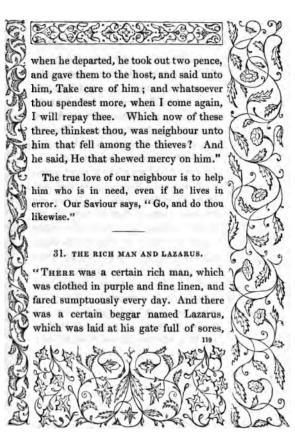
this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found."

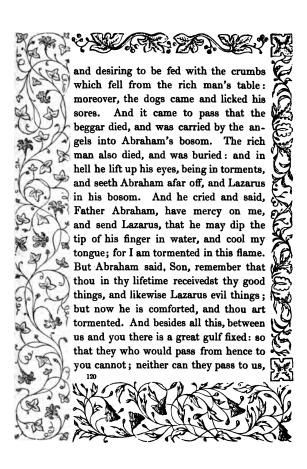
We must not be unkind and envious of others, as this brother was; but rather be tender and merciful, as our heavenly Father is.

### 30. THE GOOD SAMARITAN.

A LAWYER one day asked our Lord what he must do to be saved. The Lord told him that he must love God with all his heart, and mind, and soul, and strength; and that he must love his neighbour









that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: for I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham; but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."

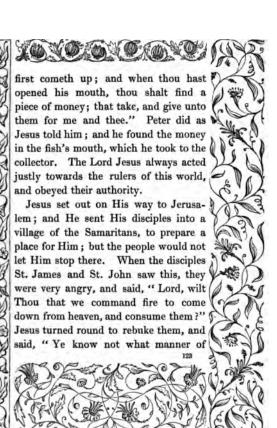
this life, than to be rich and selfish; for, after suffering a few slight troubles here, the pious man will be taken to Paradise, where he will enjoy the greatest happiness for ever; whilst the selfish, after a few vain pleasures, which cannot make him happy, will be sent to a place of misery and punishment. If

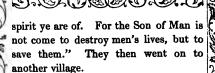
It is much better to be poor and pious in

God gives us riches, we must use them in doing good—in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and in building churches and schools; we shall then have God's blessing. But if, instead of doing these things, we spend all our money in fine clothes, in houses, and in pleasure, we shall be punished in the next world as this rich man was.

## 32. VARIOUS INSTRUCTIVE EVENTS. WHEN our Lord Jesus Christ was at

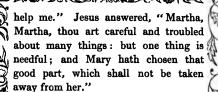
Capernaum with His disciples, the men who collected the tribute-money came to St. Peter, and said, "Doth not your Master pay tribute?" Peter replied, "Yes," and went into the house to tell his Master. The Lord Jesus said to him, "Lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and take up the fish that





If our zeal makes us cruel and unkind, it displeases our Saviour; for He has told us that we must love and pray for those who are unkind to us. If we do not, we cannot be His disciples.

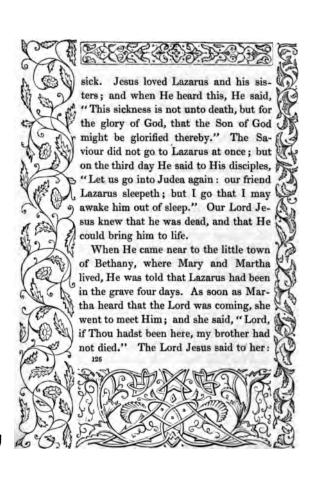
After this our Lord Jesus and His disciples went on to the village of Bethany, in which lived two sisters, Martha and Mary. Martha received the Saviour into her house. Her sister Mary sat down at the feet of Jesus to listen to His words; but Martha was so anxious to make the house comfortable, that she was vexed Mary did not help her. And she went to the Saviour, and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her, therefore, that she

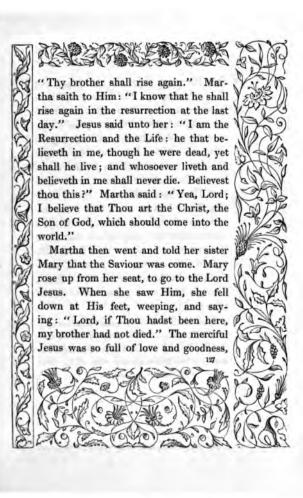


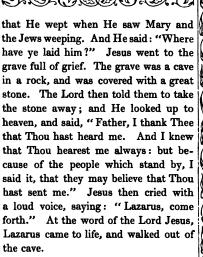
Although it would be wicked to neglect the duties of this life, we must never so attend to them as to leave no time to listen to the Word of God, and to observe His commandments. This is the "one thing needful," because upon it our salvation depends. If this is neglected, nothing else can do us any good; for we shall be lost and unhappy for ever and ever.

## 33. LAZARUS RAISED FROM THE DEAD.

LAZARUS, the brother of Mary and Martha, was very ill. His sisters knew that the Lord Jesus could cure him; and they sent to tell Him that Lazarus was

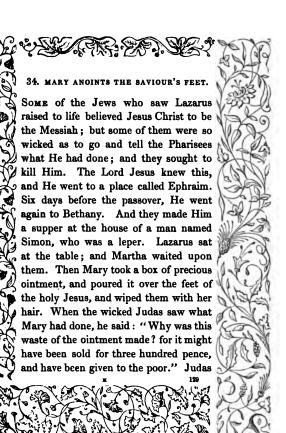


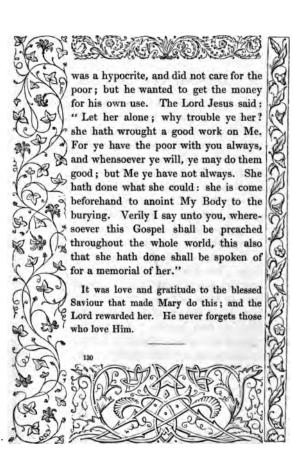


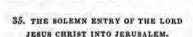


How wonderful to see a dead man brought to life by a word! We must remember that the Lord Jesus Christ was the Son of God; and that He will some day raise all the dead to life, as He raised Lazarus.

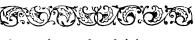








AFTER this, Jesus went towards Jerusalem. When He came to the Mount of Olives. He said to two of the disciples: "Go unto the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her; loose them, and bring them unto me. And if any man say aught unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them." The disciples did as the Lord told them; and they brought the ass to Him. They then put their garments upon the ass, and set Jesus on it. In doing this our Lord fulfilled this : prophecy, which had been spoken many hundreds of years before: "Tell ye the daughter of Sion, behold, thy King com-

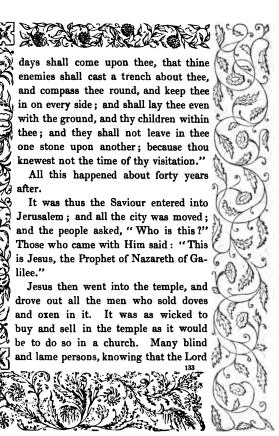


eth unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass."

The blessed Jesus rode on towards Jerusalem; and a great many people, who had seen His miracles, went after Him. And they were so full of joy, that some of them spread their garments in the way—others climbed into the palm-trees, and cut off branches, to strew along the road. The whole multitude cried out, as they went along, "Hosanna to the Son of David! blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

When the Lord Jesus came near to the city, He looked on it with pity, and wept, because He knew that it would soon be destroyed for its wickedness; and He said, "If thou hadst known, even thou, in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the





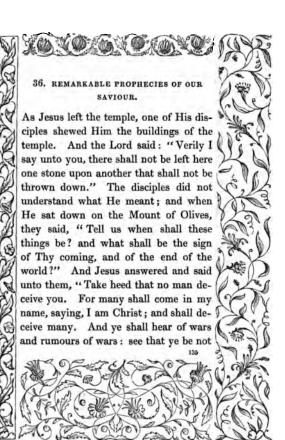


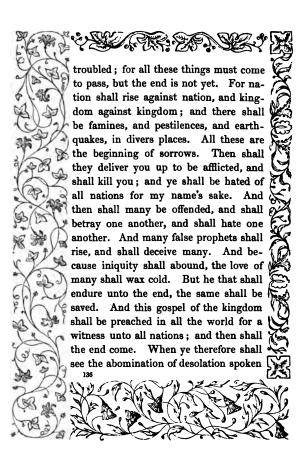
Jesus could cure them, came to the temple; and He healed them. The little children also came round the Saviour, and sang, "Hosanna to the Son of David!"

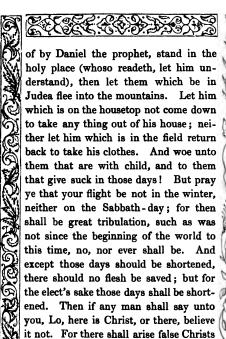
When the chief priests and Scribes saw the wonderful things done by Jesus, and heard the little children sing His praise, they were very angry; and they said, "Hearest Thou what these say?" The Lord said: "Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings Thou hast perfected praise?"

The great God in heaven listens to the praises and prayers of little children. Oh, how good and happy they ought to be! and how often ought they to sing holy hymns to their Saviour, who loves them so much!

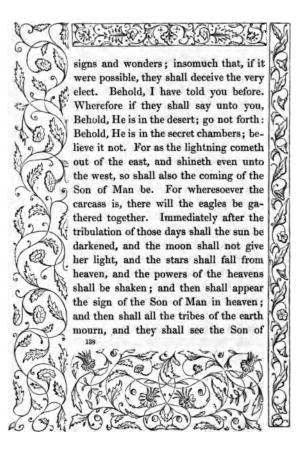
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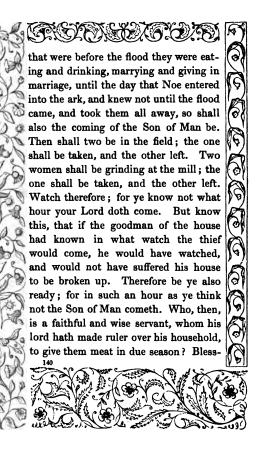


and false prophets, and shall shew great





with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet; and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds. from one end of heaven to the other. Now learn a parable of the fig-tree: when his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh; so likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, this generation shall not pass till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days



ed is that servant whom his lord, when he cometh, shall find so doing. Verily

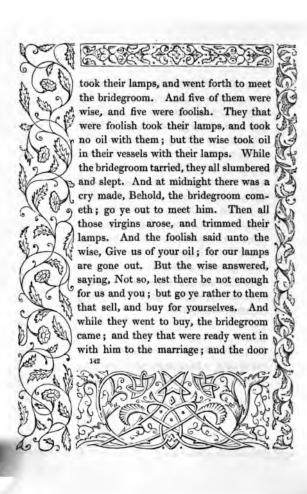
he cometh, shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, that he shall make him ruler over all his goods. But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to smite his fellow-servants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; the lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

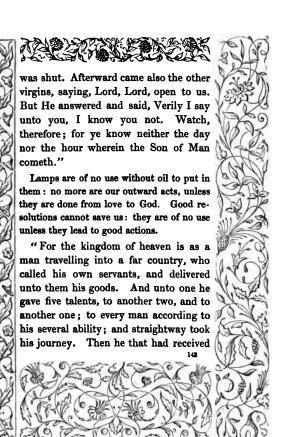
We here see how miserable the wicked are in the next world. What a dreadful thing it is to die unprepared!

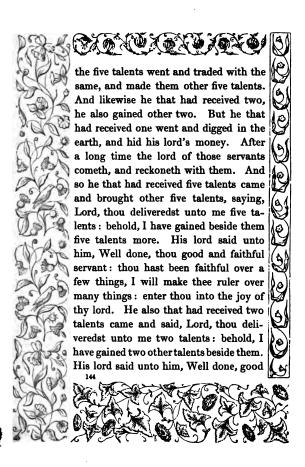
## 37. PROPHECIES CONTINUED.

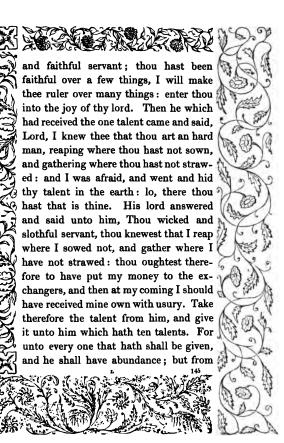
JESUS said, "Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which







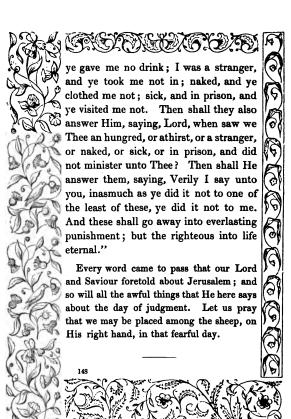




him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnash-

ing of teeth. "When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats; and He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ve blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and ve gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me

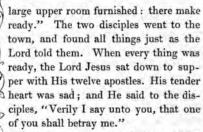
drink: I was a stranger, and ve took me in; naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ve came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, and fed Thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee drink? When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? or naked, and clothed Thee? Or when saw we Thee sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ve have done it unto me. Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat; I was thirsty, and





## 38. THE LAST SUPPER.

THE Lord Jesus Christ knew that the time had now come when He was to be put to death. One of His disciplesthe wicked, covetous Judas-had agreed to betray Jesus to the chief priests, if they would give him thirty pieces of This wicked man did all sesilver. cretly; but the Lord Jesus knew what he had done. The feast of the Passover was now come; and Jesus sent two of His disciples into the village to prepare it, saying, "Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water: follow him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guest-chamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he shall shew you a



After supper, our Lord Jesus Christ rose up from the table. He then took a towel, and bound it round Him; and pouring some water into a basin, He began to wash His disciples' feet.

He did this to teach us to be humble and kind, as He was.

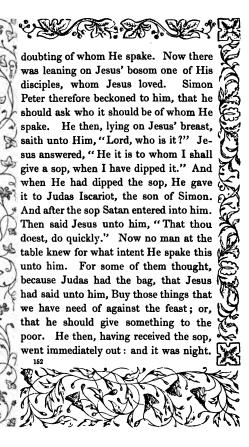
St. Peter loved his Lord and Master, and he could not bear to see Him washing his feet; and he said, "Thou shalt never wash my feet." The Lord Jesus said to him, "If I wash thee not, thou

hast no part with me." When Peter saw that he could not be saved if the Lord Jesus did not wash him, he was willing that the Lord should wash him from head to feet.

After the Lord Jesus had washed the disciples' feet, He sat down at the table, and said, "Ye call me Master and Lord; and ye say well; for so I am. If I, then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

Our Lord now became very sorrowful; and He said, "Verily, verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me." Then the disciples looked one on another,

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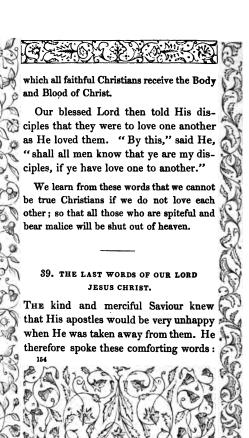


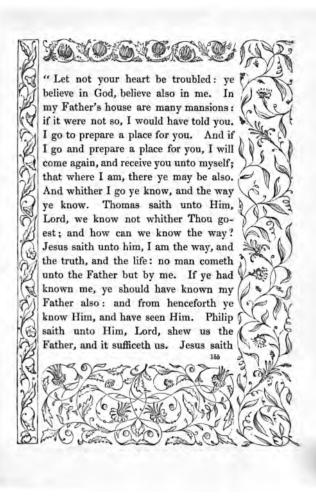


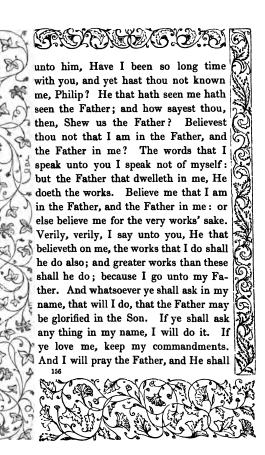
Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him. If God be glorified in Him, God shall also glorify Him in Himself, and shall straightway glorify Him."

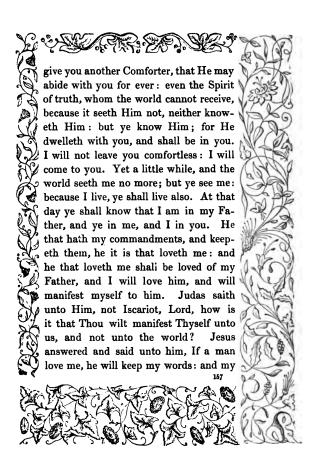
The Lord Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave to His disciples. and said, "Take, eat; this is My Body, which is given for you: this do in remembrance of Me." And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; for this is My Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

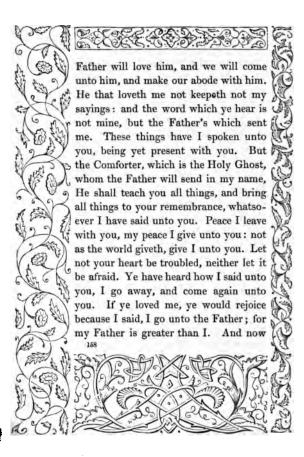
It was in this way that our blessed Saviour instituted the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, for the strengthening and refreshing of the souls of His faithful people. The holy Church has always kept this sacred feast, in

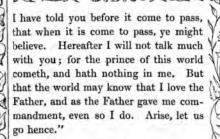






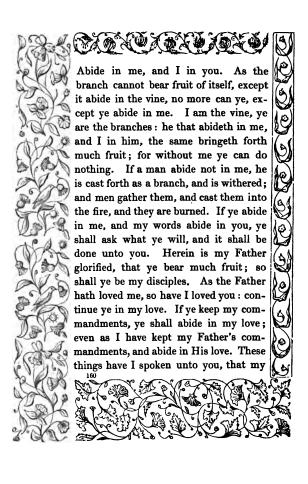


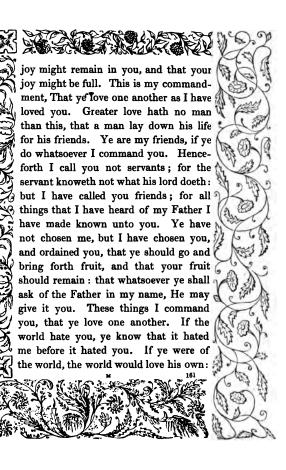


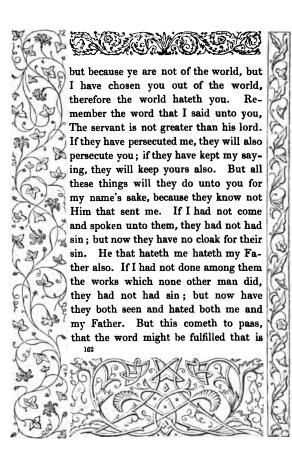


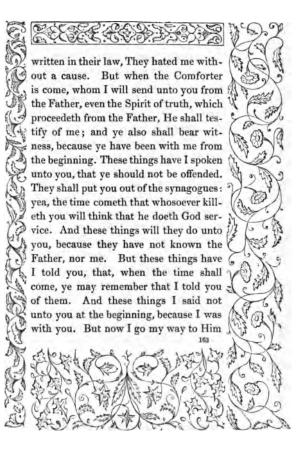
# 40. THE LAST WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, CONTINUED.

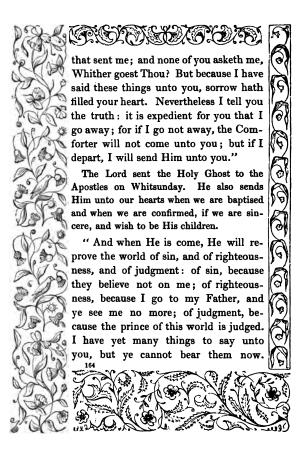
"I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit He taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.







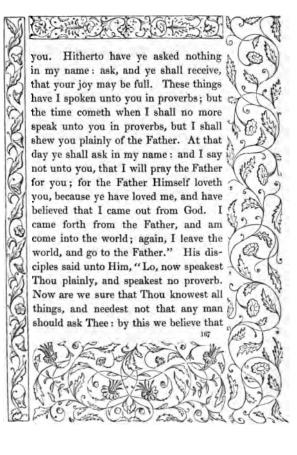






Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself: but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me; for He shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shew it unto you. A little while, and ye shall not see me; and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father." Then said some of His disciples among themselves, "What is this that He saith unto us. A little while. and ye shall not see me; and again, a little while, and ye shall see me: and, Because I go to the Father?" They said therefore, "What is this that He saith, A little while? we cannot tell what He saith." Now Jesus knew that they were

desirous to ask Him, and said unto them, "Do ye inquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me; and again, a little while, and ye shall see me? Verily, verily, I say unto you, that ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice; and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman, when she is in travail, hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world. And ye now therefore have sorrow; but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. And in that day ve shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it



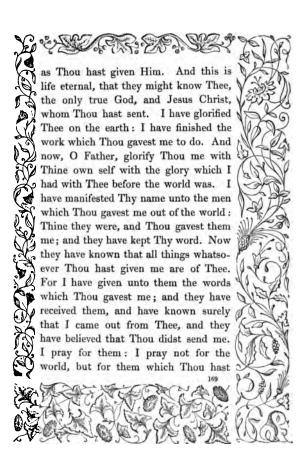


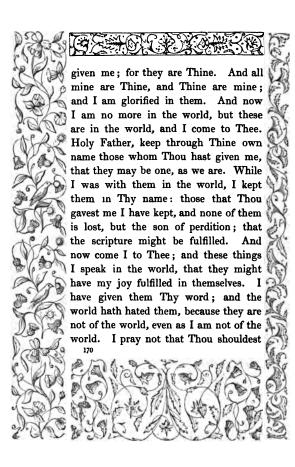
Thou camest forth from God." Jesus answered them, "Do ye now believe? Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

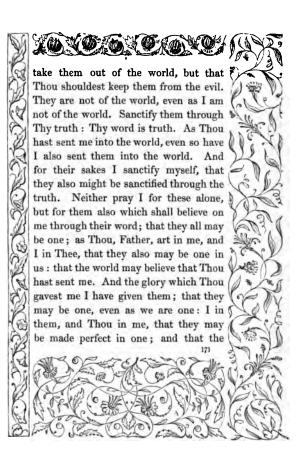
# 41. OUR LORD'S PRAYER FOR HIS APOSTLES AND FOR THE CHURCH.

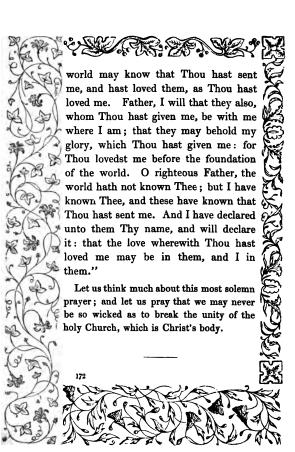
THESE words spake Jesus, and lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour is come; glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son also may glorify Thee: as Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many 168













### 42. THE SUFFERING AND BETRAYAL OF OUR HOLY SAVIOUR IN THE GARDEN.

When our Lord had spoken these solemn words, they sang a hymn, and then went out to the Mount of Olives. As they were going, the Lord Jesus said to them, "All ye shall be offended because of me this night; for it is written, I will smite the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee." St. Peter was angry when the Lord told him that he would forsake Him; and he said, "Though all men shall be offended because of Thee, yet will I never be offended."

St. Peter would not have said so if he had known his own weakness. But our Lord knew what he would do; and He warned him, saying, "Verily I say unto

thee, that this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice."

Peter could not believe that he should be so ungrateful—for he loved his Saviour; and he replied, "Though I should die with Thee, yet will I not deny Thee." All the disciples said the same; but before the next day they forsook their Lord and Saviour.

When they came to the garden of Gethsemane, the Lord Jesus said to the eleven apostles, "Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder." He then took Peter, James, and John, and went into the garden. His pure and loving heart was full of sorrow; and He spoke these sad words, which should make all sinners weep, saying, "My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death." The Lord Jesus then went a little way from the disciples,

and fell down on His face, and prayed to His heavenly Father, saying, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

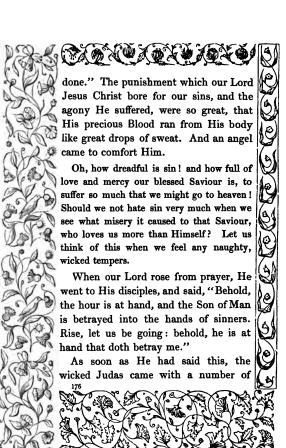
After this prayer He came to the three

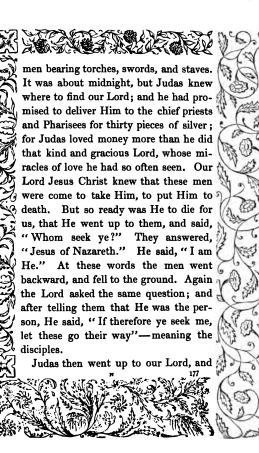
After this prayer He came to the three disciples, and found them sleeping; and He spoke in a kind and gentle manner, saying, "What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

The Lord then went and prayed as before; and when He returned, the dis-

ciples were again asleep.

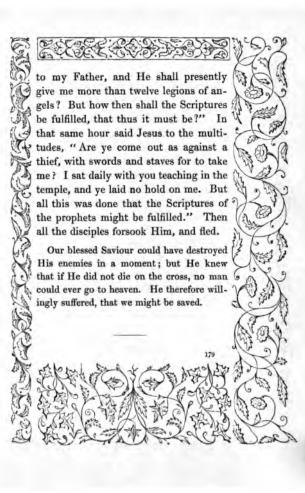
With a heart full of the deepest sorrow, because of our sins, our Saviour prayed the third time, saying, "O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, Thy will be





said, "Hail, Master!" and kissed Him. The loving Saviour said to him, "Friend, wherefore art thou come? Betrayest thou the Son of Man with a kiss?" These kind and gentle words were enough to melt a heart of stone; but Judas was too wicked to feel them.

The men then seized our Lord and Saviour, and bound His sacred Hands and Feet with cords, as if He had been a thief. St. Peter could not bear to see his Saviour treated thus, so he drew his sword, and cut off the right ear of the high priest's servant. Our Lord, always ready to do good, touched the man's ear, and healed it. And He rebuked St. Peter, saying, "Put up again thy sword into his place; for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword. Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray





## 43. ST. PETER DENIES HIS LORD, AND THE WICKED MEN MOCK HIM.

THE meek and holy Saviour was now led to the house of the high priest. St. Peter followed Him a long way off, and went into the hall to warm himself by the fire. As he stood there, one of the servants said to him, "Thou wast also with Jesus of Nazareth." But Peter said, "I know Him not." A little while after, two other servants said the same. Then Peter declared with an oath, saving, "I know not the Man." As soon as he had denied the Lord Jesus the third time, he heard the cock crow. He then remembered that Jesus had said, "Before the cock crow thou shalt deny me thrice;" and he went out and wept bitterly.

What a lesson does this teach us! If we would be faithful to our Saviour, we must

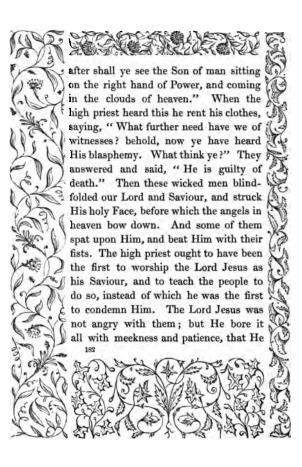




pray to God to help us, or we shall fall as St. Peter did; and perhaps we may never have grace to repent of our sin.

The chief priest, and the scribes, and Pharisees all met together to put the Lord Jesus to death. Now many false witnesses came, to accuse our Lord of things which He had not done. They knew that He never did any thing wrong, so they were obliged to get witnesses who would not speak the truth. But our Lord Jesus was calm, like an innocent man; and He made no answer to His wicked The high priest stood up and enemies. said to Him, "Answerest thou nothing? What is it which these witness against Thee?" The Lord did not answer him. The high priest then said, "I adjure Thee by the living God, that Thou tell us whether Thou be the Christ the Son of God." Jesus replied, "Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you. Here-





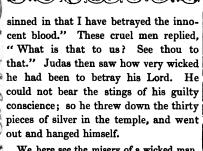


might save us, and teach us how to behave to our enemies.

Little children, who, in baptism, were made lambs of Christ's flock, must learn to follow their Saviour's example when they are treated unkindly, and not give way to anger or revenge.

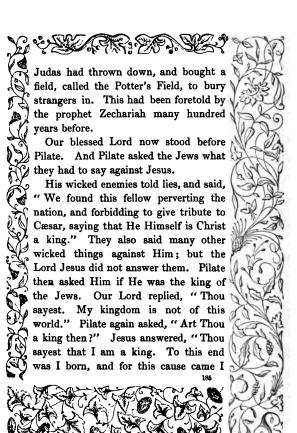
#### 44. OUR LORD TAKEN BEFORE PILATE.

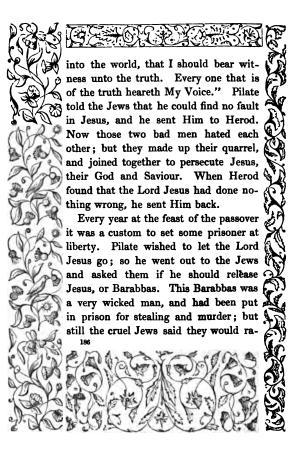
When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders plotted to put the Lord Jesus to death. And when they had cruelly tied His hands, they led Him away to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor. Now when the wicked Judas saw that his Lord was condemned, he was sorry for what he had done. And he took back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and said, "I have

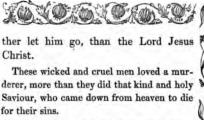


We here see the misery of a wicked man, and the danger of loving money. Judas had been daily with our Lord Jesus Christ. He had heard all His holy words, and had seen His wonderful works, and he had received nothing but love and kindness from the Lord; but the love of money put all these things out of his mind, and led him to betray his Lord and only Saviour. Oh, let us fly from this sin; for the Scriptures tell us that the love of money has destroyed the souls of many.

The chief priests took the money which 184

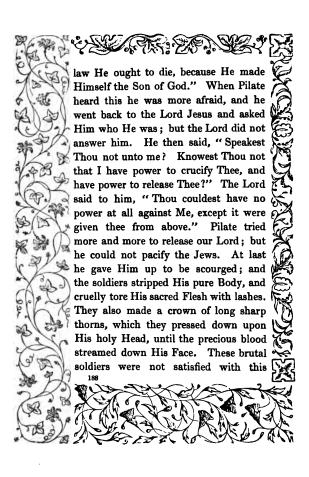






Pilate was afraid to condemn Jesus, because his wife had a dream, and she sent to him, saying, "Have thou nothing to do with that Just Man: for I have suffered many things this day in a dream because of Him." But Pilate was so afraid of offending the Jews that he dare not let Jesus go. He then asked them what he should do with Jesus; and they all cried out, "Let Him be crucified." Pilate said, "Why, what evil hath He done?" They knew He had done no evil; but they cried out, "Let Him be

crucified. We have a law, and by our



cruelty; for they put on Him a purple robe, and a reed in His right hand, and bowed before Him in mockery, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And beside all this, they were so wicked as to strike Him on the head, and to spit upon

Him.

to do.

Thus did these wicked men treat the most holy and tender Saviour. When we read this most awful account, we must never forget, that it was for the sins of all of us that our Lord Jesus suffered such cruelty. It was because we do not love God; but do, and say, and think wicked things, and give way to proud and naughty tempers, that our Saviour was flogged, spit upon, and nailed to the cross. Oh, let us pray to our Saviour to make us sorry for our sins, and to help us to do every thing which He tells us

### 45. OUR LORD JESUS CRUCIFIED.

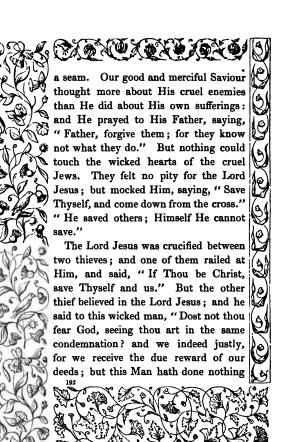
AFTER mocking our Lord, they took off the purple robe and put on His own clothes, and led Him away to crucify Him. They made the Lord Jesus carry His cross; but His sufferings had made Him so weak that He could not carry it far. So they made a man named Simon bear it after Him, unto a place called Golgotha. As they went through the streets of Jerusalem, a great many men and women followed Him; for they pitied Him, and wept. But the Saviour turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me; but weep for yourselves and for your children." Our Lord knew that Jerusalem would soon be burnt down, because of their wicked treatment of Himself. So He

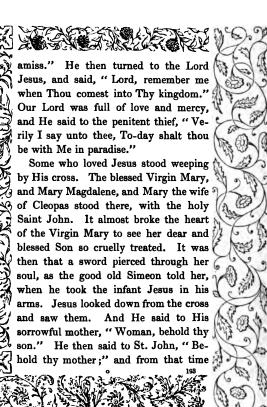


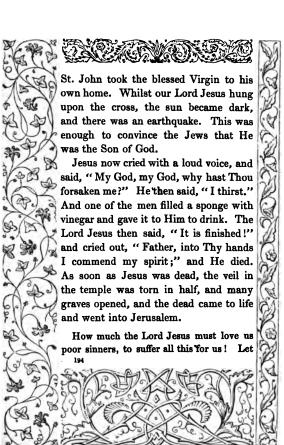
told the women they had much more reason to weep for themselves than for Him.

When they came to Golgotha they stripped the Lord Jesus, and gave Him vinegar and gall to drink; and then laid Him down upon the cross, and nailed His blessed Hands and Feet to it with long iron nails. After this the wicked wretches lifted up the cross, so as to put the bones out of joint. Our blessed Lord hung thus upon the cross in the greatest agony; but He made no complaints. Over His head Pilate wrote these words, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews."

Whilst our Lord Jesus was hanging on the cross, the soldiers cast lots for His garments, as it had been foretold they would do. His coat was without





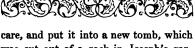




us pray that we may so love Him, that we may never do any thing that will displease Him.

# 46. OUR LORD RISES FROM THE DEAD.

In the evening the Body of our Lord was taken down from the cross; and a soldier ran a spear into His side, and there came out blood and water. A rich man, named Joseph, loved the Lord Jesus, and wished to bury Him; and he went to Pilate and asked him for the Body of Jesus. Pilate told him he might have it. Joseph took the body of his Saviour with great respect and care, and wrapped it in a clean white cloth. Another rich man, whose name was Nicodemus, brought some very expensive spices to put on the Saviour's precious Body. They then carried it with great



care, and put it into a new tomb, which was cut out of a rock in Joseph's garden; and they rolled a great stone over the mouth of the cave.

The next day the chief priests and Pharisees went to ask Pilate to have the grave watched, because the Lord had said that He would rise again on the third day. They then went and sealed up the stone, and set men to watch it, for fear the disciples should take the Body away. But they could not prevent Christ rising from the dead; for very early on Sunday morning there was an earthquake, and an angel came down from heaven and rolled the stone away, and sat upon it. He was clothed in white, and his face shone like lightning; and when the watchmen saw him, they fell down, almost dead with fear.

The holy women, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, went to the tomb before

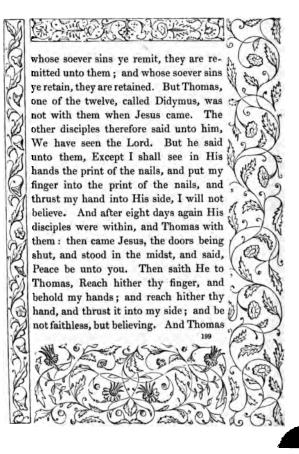


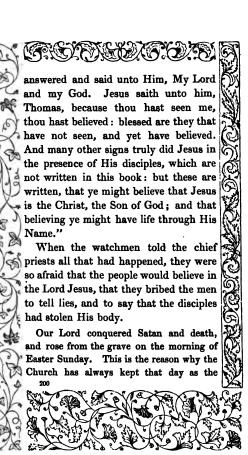


daylight, and found the stone rolled away. They then went in, but could not find the body of the Lord Jesus; but they saw two angels, who told them that the Lord was risen from the dead. Mary made haste to tell St. Peter and St. John. When they heard it, they ran to the sepulchre, and found the linen clothes lying by themselves. The disciples then went home very much astonished at what they had seen. As Mary stood crying in the garden, the Lord appeared to her; but she did not know Him, until the Lord called her by her name. As soon as she knew Him, she fell down at His feet to worship Him; and the Lord said. "Touch me not; for I am not vet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father and your Father, and to my God and your God." After this He appeared to two of the disciples as

they were walking, and told them all that the Scriptures said about Himself; but they did not know Him until He took bread and blessed it; they then knew that it was the Lord, and He vanished out of their sight.

"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when He had so said, He shewed unto them His hands and His side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

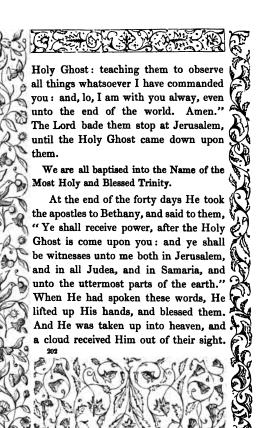


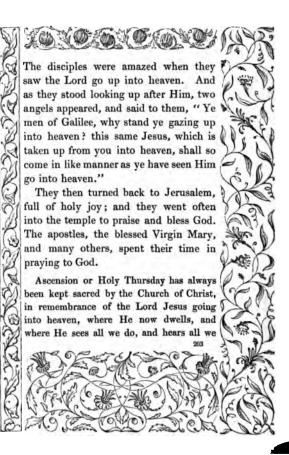


greatest festival. If the Lord Jesus had not risen from the dead, we should never rise out of our graves; but He has said that He will raise us up at the last day. What a comfort it is to think of this when we lose our dear friends, and to know that we shall one day see them again! How can we sufficiently love that Saviour who gives us this and every other blessing!

# 47. OUR LORD ASCENDS TO HEAVEN.

THE Lord Jesus Christ dwelt on the earth forty days after He rose from the dead. He told His disciples many things about the kingdom of God; and promised to send them the Holy Ghost down from heaven. One day He said to them, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations; baptising them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the





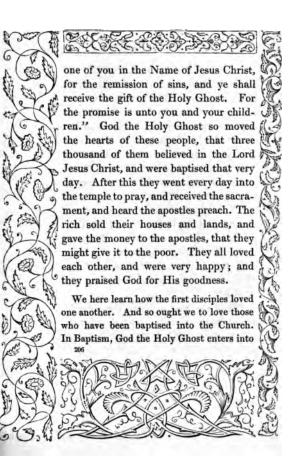
say. He is gone to prepare a place for all who love and obey Him. Those who follow Him on earth will live for ever with Him in heaven.

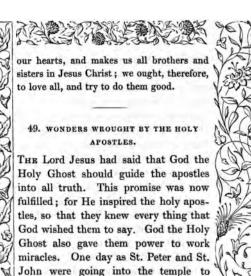
# 48. THE HOLY GHOST DESCENDS ON THE APOSTLES.

AT the feast called Pentecost, Jerusalem was full of strangers from all parts of the world. They went there to worship God. The apostles were all together in a house; and on a sudden they heard a loud sound, like a very high wind, which filled the At the same moment they saw house. cloven tongues like fire resting upon And they were filled with the them. Holy Ghost, so that they could speak languages which they had never learned. The apostles then began to preach, and the people from all parts of the world were astonished to hear them speak in their different languages.

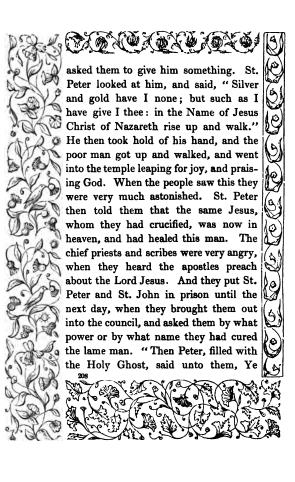
St. Peter stood up and said, "Ye men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by Him, in the midst of you. Him ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth This, which ye now see and hear. Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, Whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ."

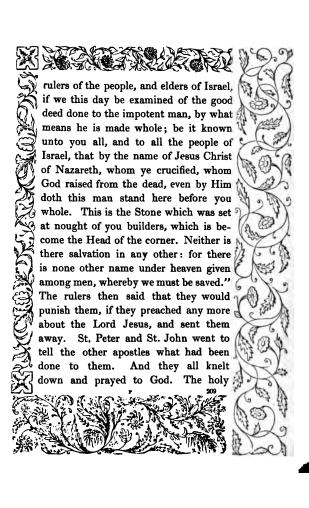
When the people heard these words, their consciences were pricked, and they said to the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" St. Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptised every them, "Repent, and be baptised every them."

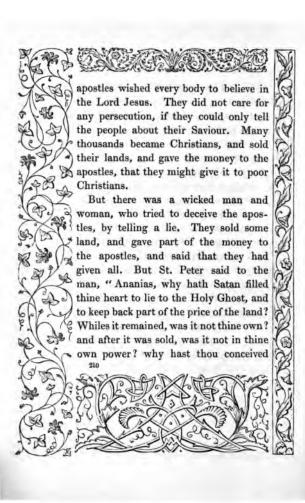


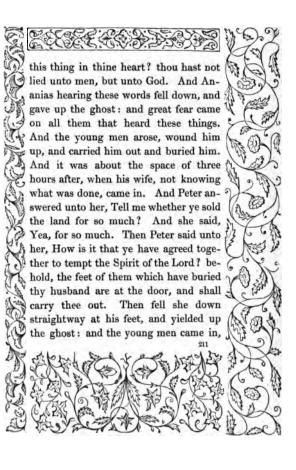


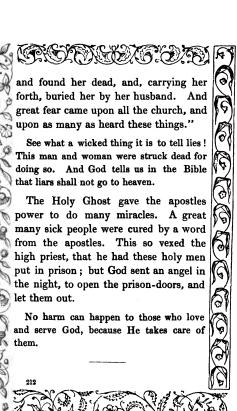
pray, they saw a poor man lying at the gate begging. This man had been a cripple all his life, and could not walk. When he saw the apostles, he







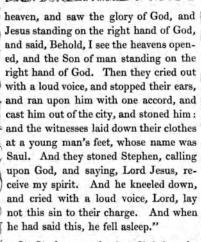




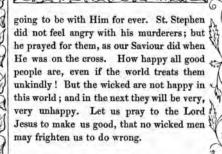


#### 50. THE FIRST MARTYR SLAIN.

Many of the Jews hated the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ, and they tried to put a stop to it; but the more they opposed it, the further it spread. There was one very holy man, named Stephen, who was full of the Holy Ghost, and of love to the Lord Jesus. great wonders and miracles among the people, so that many became Christians. The Jews hated Stephen, and they took him before the judge. When he was there, every body in the place looked at him with wonder, for his face looked like an angel's. St. Stephen then told them how wicked they had been to crucify the Lord Jesus. "When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into

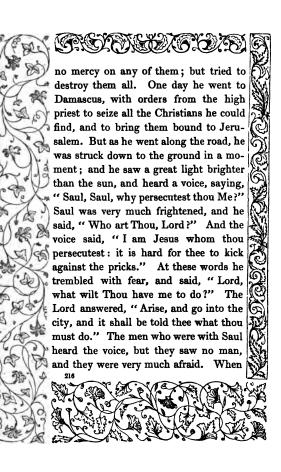


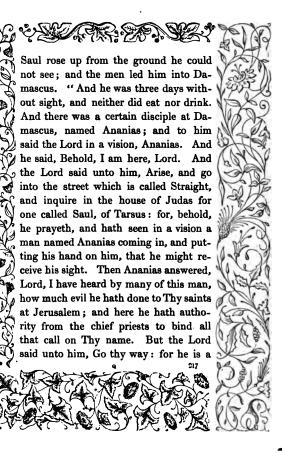
St. Stephen was the first Christian who died for his love to the Lord Jesus. He must have felt very happy when he saw the Lord Jesus in heaven, and knew that he was



### 51. THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL.

The young man Saul, who was at the stoning of St. Stephen, was one of the greatest enemies to the Christians. He went into their houses, and dragged them away to prison. The poor Christians were so cruelly persecuted that they were obliged to flee for their lives. Saul had





chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel; for I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptised. And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. But all that heard

